

Message Text

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S/S-O: SALARGA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 172853

NODIS
FOR SPAIN FROM MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, TZ, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO NYERERE

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 2633

1. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING A FINAL DRAFT FOR THE WHITE HOUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO NYERERE'S LAST LETTER. SECRETARY BELIEVES THERE IS NO POINT IN LENGTHY OR POINT-BY-POINT RESPONSE TO NYERERE'S ELABORATE CRITIQUE. THERE IS LITTLE TO BE GAINED FROM A PROLONGATION OF THE EXCHANGE, PARTICULARLY SINCE NYERERE SEEMS TO HAVE COOLED DOWN AND HAS EXPRESSED APPROVAL OF ATLANTIC CITY SPEECH. MOREOVER, OUR RECENT CLOSE COOPERATION WITH NYERERE ON NAMIBIA HAS PUT RELATIONS BACK ON A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE BASIS AND GRAHAM-LOW WILL SOON BE THERE TO PICK UP THE CONTINUITY OF OUR COLLABORATION ON RHODESIA.

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2. THERE FOLLOWS PROPOSED DRAFT OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO NYERERE: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL LETTER OF JUNE 19. I AM PLEASED TO EXCHANGE THOUGHTS WITH YOU ON PROBLEMS OF COMMON CONCERN IN AFRICA. I UNDERSTAND THAT AMBASSADOR SPAIN HAS PROVIDED YOU WITH A COPY OF SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH OF JUNE 19 AND THAT YOU WELCOMED IT. IT IS REASSURING TO

KNOW THAT WHILE WE MAY DISAGREE ON CERTAIN MATTERS,

WE CAN NEVERTHELESS AGREE ON THE NEED TO CONTINUE
TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY.

RECENT EVENTS IN NAMIBIA ARE PARTICULARLY
ENCOURAGING TO ME. THE ADVICE AND COUNSEL WHICH YOU HAVE
PROVIDED THE CONTACT GROUP AND YOUR WORK WITH YOUR FRONT
LINE COLLEAGUES AND WITH SWAPO HAVE CONTRIBUTED SUB-
STANTIALLY TO OUR COMMON SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION WHICH WILL
BRING PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE TO NAMIBIA. ALTHOUGH
MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, PROSPECTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL
RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM HAVE NEVER BEEN BETTER. I
HOPE TO SEE MUTUAL COOPERATION LIKE THIS STRENGTHENED
IN THE FUTURE. IF THE SOVIET UNION WILL ALSO LEND
ITS SUPPORT FOR A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT, AN EXTREMELY
VALUABLE PRECEDENT COULD BE SET.

IN YOUR LETTER YOU EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE
PROSPECT OF EAST-WEST CONFRONTATION IN AFRICA. OUR
CRITICISM OF SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA
DOES NOT GROW FROM ANY DESIRE FOR CONFRONTATION.
INDEED, IT REFLECTS OUR STRONG BELIEF THAT AFRICAN
PROBLEMS MUST BE RESOLVED BY AFRICANS, IN AFRICAN
TERMS. LIKE YOU, MY WISH IS FOR AN AFRICA THAT IS
STRONG POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY AND THAT CAN
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PRESERVE ITS FREEDOM FROM OUTSIDE DOMINATION.

YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT I RECENTLY SENT
AMBASSADOR DONALD MCHENRY TO LUANDA FOR DISCUSSIONS
WITH ANGOLAN LEADERS. THEIR TALKS WERE COMPREHENSIVE
AND USEFUL AND IDENTIFIED SOME ISSUES ON WHICH WE SHARE
COMMON CONCERNS. ONE SUCH AREA INVOLVES THE ANGOLA-
ZAIRE BORDER AND STEPS WHICH ZAIRES AND ANGOLA MIGHT
BE ABLE TO TAKE TO REDUCE AND ELIMINATE THE TENSIONS
BETWEEN THEM. WE HOPE TO ENCOURAGE RECIPROCAL MEASURES
BY BOTH SIDES WITH A VIEW TO STABILIZING THE ANGOLAN-
ZAIRE BORDER AND PROMOTING PEACE IN THE REGION.

LET US HOPE THAT THROUGH THESE AND SIMILAR
EFFORTS WE CAN COME ONE STEP CLOSER TO THE GOALS
WHICH BOTH YOU AND I SEEK.

MY VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE
FORTHCOMING OAU SUMMIT MEETING. END TEXT.

3. WE HOPE TO SEND OUR FINAL DRAFT TO THE WHITE HOUSE

EARLY MONDAY AFTERNOON, SO WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING
YOUR COMMENTS BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MONDAY. SORRY
FOR THE RUSH. VANCE

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